



THOMAS J. VILSACK  
GOVERNOR

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SALLY J. PEDERSON  
LT. GOVERNOR

October 2001

Dear Iowans,

An essential element of our state's commitment to education includes helping families, communities and schools work together to ensure the safety and security of our students. Many of our efforts are geared toward physical safety and crisis management, but even more important is our focus on the range of developmental skills our children need to learn in order to prevent such crises from happening.

The Safe Schools Leadership Handbook is a vital resource in that learning process. It provides hands-on guidance and practical tools to help families, communities and schools build early intervention programs to help students learn to recognize, accept and respect themselves and others.

Our goal is to create an environment in which all students feel welcome and safe, the kind of environment that opens the doors for the highest possible levels of student success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Vilsack".

Tom Vilsack  
Governor

